

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Criminal Investigation Division
Investigative Activity Report**

Case Number

0500-0614

Case Title:

Village of Crestwood, IL

Reporting Office:

Chicago, IL, Area Office

Subject of Report:

Interview of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on June 25, 2009

Activity Date:

June 25, 2009

Copies to:

Related Files:

Reporting Official and Date:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), SA
01-JUL-2009, Signed by: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), SA

Approving Official and Date:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), SAC
10-JUL-2009, Approved by: (b) (6), (b) (7), SAC

SYNOPSIS

06/25/2009 - On June 25, 2009, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was interviewed. (b) (6), (b) (7) provided details relating to LMO reports that were prepared by Burke Engineering on behalf of the Village of Crestwood, IL.

DETAILS

On June 25, 2009, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was interviewed by this reporting agent (RA), Special Agent (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Criminal Investigation Division, via telephone. This interview was conducted during the execution of a federal search warrant at Burke Engineering (Burke) in Orland Park, IL. At the time of this telephone conversation, (b) (6), (b) (7) was at (b) (6), (b) (7) vacation home in Arkansas.

RA advised (b) (6), (b) (7) that agents from the EPA were at (b) (6), (b) (7) business to execute a search warrant, and to collect records relating to work completed by Burke for the Village of Crestwood, IL. These documents would focus on Crestwood's use of a drinking water well. (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that (b) (6), (b) (7) understood, and that (b) (6), (b) (7) and (b) (6), (b) (7) company would cooperate fully with investigators.

In summary and not verbatim unless otherwise noted, (b) (6), (b) (7) provided the following information:

(b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that (b) (6), (b) (7) presumed that the EPA would "come knocking", as Burke had previously completed reports relating to Crestwood's well use.

(b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that forms relating to Crestwood's drinking water would be found on (b) (6), (b) (7) desk. These records had been segregated, as Burke had received a letter from Crestwood's attorney advising them to preserve all records relating to Crestwood. The records that were on (b) (6), (b) (7) desk

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were "Lake Michigan files," which (b) (6), (b) (7) believed were the only reports completed by Burke relating to well use in Crestwood. (b) (6), (b) (7) confirmed that the documents in question were the LMO reports.

(b) (6), (b) (7) stated that the LMO reports would have been prepared by (b) (6), (b) (7) or by another Burke staff member at the direction of George (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) indicated that, in more recent years, the reports were mainly completed by Burke staff members based upon information provided by Crestwood officials. (b) (6), (b) (7) believes that a state statute required the village to provide the state with information relating to well water use and Lake Michigan water use.

(b) (6), (b) (7) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was omitting the well use from the LMO reports because (b) (6), (b) (7) was directed to do so by former Crestwood Mayor (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that they would not report the well use because the village was looking to save money, and hide the fact that the village was losing water from their drinking water system. If the state had learned that there was water loss in the village system, they would have had to do improvements to fix the problem. (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that, over the years, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) dealt primarily with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on all issues relating to Crestwood. From time to time, (b) (6), (b) (7) also dealt with the water operators from the village. (b) (6), (b) (7) stated that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), who worked for Crestwood, was the person responsible for providing information to Burke for the purpose of preparing the LMO reports.

(b) (6), (b) (7) acknowledged that he had reviewed some of the LMO reports, and had seen reports where the well use had been omitted, where two sets of reports had been prepared for the same year, and where letters discussing the omission of well data had been sent by (b) (6), (b) (7) to Crestwood. (b) (6), (b) (7) stated that, at some point, letters would no longer be sent to Crestwood along with the reports. (b) (6), (b) (7) presumed that there was no longer a need to send the letters, as the practice of not reporting the well use had become so commonplace. (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that (b) (6), (b) (7) knew what the village wanted (b) (6), (b) (7) to report on the LMO forms.

(b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that (b) (6), (b) (7) would not have reviewed the LMO reports prior to their submission back to Crestwood. (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that (b) (6), (b) (7) had a business degree, not an engineering degree, and that (b) (6), (b) (7) handled the business aspects of Burke.

With respect to files at Burke, (b) (6), (b) (7) stated that from time to time,

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files would "get stripped." As they retained so many records, they would attempt to "slim down files for storage", by getting rid of duplicate items in the files. (b) (6), (b) (7) indicated that they would always retain correspondence items from a file.

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